

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 AF-06 ARA-06 CAB-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00

LAB-04 SIL-01 IO-10 OES-03 TRSE-00 FRB-03 CIEP-01

PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 CEA-01 /073 W

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R 121633Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2757

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, ELAB, EAIR, PO

SUBJ: MEASURES TO BENEFIT PORTUGUESE EMIGRANTS

1. MAY 10 PRESS REPORTED AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED BY SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EMIGRATION AND TAP, AND AFTERWARDS AGREED TO BY LUFTHANSA, KLM, AIR FRANCE, SABENA, AND SWISSAIR, PROVIDING FOR 40 PERCENT REDUCTION IN NORMAL AIR FARES FOR PORTUGUESE EMIGRANTS AND FAMILIES. REDUCED FARES VALID BOTH DIRECTIONS BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND GERMANY, SWITZERLAND, BELGIUM, AND THE NETHERLANDS, AND FROM FRANCE AND LUXEMBOURG TO PORTUGAL (FARES FOR REVERSE DIRECTION UNDER STUDY).

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SIMILAR FARE SCHEMES UNDER STUDY FOR FLIGHTS TO SOUTH AFRICA,

BRAZIL, VENEZUELA, AND CANADA.

2. PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES WARNED PORTUGUESE EMIGRANTS AGAINST USING SERVICES OF BUS COMPANY "FRANCE-CARS" AND WEST GERMAN TRAVEL AGENCIES "IBERICA" AND "FERNANDEZ," WHO ARE CHARGED WITH SHODDY SERVICE AND STRANDING PASSENGERS AT FRENCH-SPANISH AND SPANISH-PORTUGUESE FRONTIERS.

3. UPCOMING MEETING IN LUXEMBOURG ON MAY 14 AND 15 OF JOINT LUSO-LUXEMBOURG COMMISSION WILL BE TO REVISE MANUAL LABOR CONTRACT AFFECTING SOME 24,000 PORTUGUESE WORKERS THERE. PORTUGUESE DELEGATION HEADED BY MANUEL AREIAS, PRESIDENT OF EMIGRATION INSTITUTE, WILL REPORTEDLY SEEK IMPROVED JOB SECURITY, HOUSING, AND EDUCATION BENEFITS. SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS WILL BE SUBJECT OF SEPARATE NEGOTIATIONS IN NEAR FUTURE.

4. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS JUST APPROVED DECREE ALLOWING EMIGRANTS AND HOLDERS OF INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS TO WITHDRAW UP TO 100,000 ESCUDOS FROM TIME DEPOSITS.

5. COMMENT: MEASURES ABOVE ARE PART OF ON-GOING CAMPAIGN BY GOVERNMENT TO IMPROVE BENEFITS AND CONDITIONS FOR PORTUGUESE EMIGRANT WORKERS. THIS NOT ONLY CONTINUES GOVERNMENT'S WORKER-ORIENTED STRATEGY BUT HELPS TO RELIEVE UNEMPLOYMENT IN PORTUGAL, AND PRESUMABLY WILL HELP KEEP EMIGRANT REMITTANCES--VITAL TO BALANCE OF PAYMENTS--FLOWING.  
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## Message Attributes

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